

From: Joe Maranzano
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/16/01 11:44am
Subject: Consumer Comment

I am a user of Microsoft operating systems and applications in my small business.

I believe the proposed settlement is inadequate to protect consumers and will not help much needed competition, especially in the application space.

I have selected many non-Microsoft applications because of their features and reliability.

But I have found it increasingly more difficult to stay with these applications as

I have upgraded to new Operating Systems. They are often not available at the same time

as the OS nor do they take advantage of the new OS features.

I would strongly recommend that you reconsider your agreement decision.

I would favor

a ruling that forced Microsoft to make the OS sources available publicly so all vendors

have an equal opportunity to use the capabilities.

I worked in the early days of UNIX and in that experience consumers got the very best

applications at the time because of the open source to the OS.

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